Message Text

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2.1

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

AID-05 EB-07 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01

COME-00 FRB-03 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01

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R 121742Z JUN 75 ZDK

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3087

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMCONSUL ZURICH

USMISSION NATO

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MADRID PLEASE PASS TO AMBASSADOR CARLUCCI

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EFIN, SZ, PO

SUBJ: BANK OF PORTUGAL STATEMENT ON GOLD AND

LOANS

REF: LISBON 3168, BERN 2350

1.TO COUNTER GROWING SPECULATION AND RUMORS, BANK OF PORTUGAL (BOP) ISSUED COMMUNIQUE JUNE 11 DENYING AS "WITHOUT FOUNDATION" REPORTS THAT BOP HAS BEEN SELLING GOLD FROM ITS RESERVES, AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HAS TRANSFERRED GOLD TO SWITZERLAND AS COLLATERAL FOR LOAN FROM

BANK FOR INTERNATIONAL SETTLEMENTS (BIS) (REFTELSL.

- 2. BOP COMMUNIQUE DID, HOWEVER, CONFIRM THAT IT HAS NEGOTIATED A "LINE OF CREDIT" OF UP TO 250 MILLION DOLLARS FROM BIS, JUST AS IT HAS PREVIOUSLY ARRANGED A 150 MILLION DOLLAR STANDBY LOAN FROM CONSORTIUM HEADED BY FIRST NATIONAL CITY BANK. BOP DESCRIBED THESE AS TWO "SIMPLE AND NORMAL" OPENINGS OF CREDIT OBTAINED FOR "TEMPORARY COMPENSATION" OF WORRISOME BALANCE OF PAYMENTS DEFICITS.
- 3. COMMUNIQUE ENDED BY CLAIMING THAT IT HAS ONLY BEEN NECESSARY TO USE A "SMALL PART" OF THE CREDIT THUS FAR.
- 4. COMMENT: A. EMBASSY DOUBTS THAT THIS COMMUNIQUE WILL STOP RUMORS ABOUT DISPOSITION OF GOLD RESERVES, PARTICULARLY AMID CONTINUED SPECULATION ABOUT REASONS FOR SUBMISSION OF RESIGNATION BY BOP GOVERNOR JACINTO NUNES (LISBON 2997 NOTAL).
- B. THIS IS FIRST OFFICIAL INDICATION THAT LINES OF CREDIT (ESPECIALLY 150 MILLION STANDBY) HAVE ALREADY BEEN TAPPED. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY CONFIRMATION POSSIBLE FROM ADDRESSEES. OKUN

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Message Attributes

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